

Baxter Docket No. DDR 5455  
W&W Docket No. 1417B P 316

8/A  
B/H  
3-12-01  
PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



In re U.S. Utility Patent Application of: )  
Arnold C. BILSTAD, Bradley H. )  
BUCHANAN, Alan W. MARTTILA, )  
and Archie WOODWORTH )  
Serial No. 09/294,964 )  
Filed: April 20, 1999 )  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR )  
MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED )  
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE )  
STERILE FIELD )

Examiner: I. Soubra

Art Unit: 1744

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**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO DECEMBER 6, 2000 OFFICE ACTION**

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 6, 2000, initially rejecting all of Applicants' claims in the above-referenced application and making this Reply due by March 6, 2001, without extension. Therefore, this Reply and Amendment should be considered timely filed. Entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of all pending claims, in light of the amendments and remarks below, are respectfully requested.

**Note, this "Amendment and Reply" is being submitted in the form required under the amended rule 37 C.F.R. 1.121. Accordingly, a sheet containing the marked-up claims corresponding to the substituted claims set forth below, are attached hereto.**